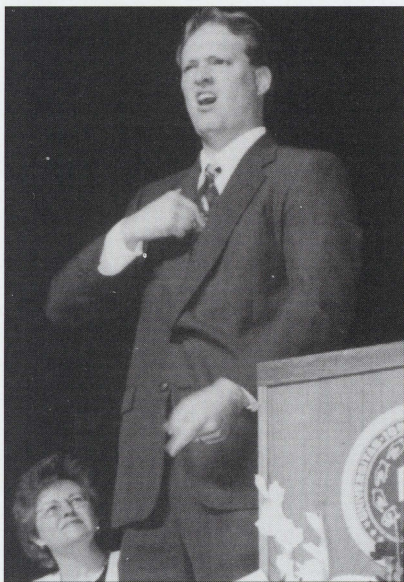




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Climb more mountains, Brick urges MSSD graduates



Kelby Brick addresses MSSD's class of 2001.

The United States is a much better place today for deaf and disabled people than it was 12 years ago, deaf attorney Kelby Brick told the 36 members of MSSD's Class of 2001 on June 15, and it is up to deaf youth such as them to carry on the momentum.

Brick, an alumnus of both MSSD and Gallaudet—and the first deaf graduate of Temple University, where he received his law degree—has a private practice, has been active in numerous civic and rights advocacy organizations, and has co-authored a book, *Legal Rights: the Guide for Deaf and Hard of Hearing People*. He praised the graduates for their accomplishments, such as winning the Academic Bowl for two consecutive years and being champions in 11 national sports. "You have reached the top of the mountain," he said. But he urged them not to linger there for too long: "There are many more mountains to scale, many more challenges to overcome."

Looking back to 1989, many freedoms that deaf people and others with disabilities enjoy today did not exist. It was the year before the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which meant discrimination against a large segment of the U.S. population was still in practice, and no mandate for accessibility in public places. The antiquated decoder machine sat on television sets in deaf peoples' homes, because decoder chips in televisions of a certain size were not required—besides, not many channels were captioned anyway.

Conditions have improved, but Brick reminded the graduates, "we're not perfect yet." Movies aren't captioned unless someone's "kindness" allows it, he said. On commercial airline

flights, there are mobile phones for hearing passengers but no TTYs for deaf passengers, and essential information on flights is only passed on verbally, leaving deaf passengers uninformed. Technology is moving toward voice activation, but there is not always a text message.

"The world is yours and it is up to you to start and continue new traditions," said Brick. "I look back 12 years and see how far we've come and how much further we can go. Don't sit on your laurels."

Two class speakers were chosen this year, based on essays submitted

by the senior class on what graduation means to them. Bellamie Bachleda said that what has meant the most to her in reaching graduation is her experiences at MSSD and reaching for her potential. Coming to MSSD from a mainstream school was a completely new experience for her, said Bachleda, but one in which she has undergone tremendous growth. Garrett Bose talked to his classmates about change and how important it is in our lives. "If you don't change, you're not going to grow, and if you don't grow, you're not really going to live," he said.

The salutatorian for the Class of 2001 was Andrew Donatich, who earned a grade point average of 3.71, and the valedictorian was Megan Leschly, who achieved a 3.62 GPA. Fourteen students—more than one third of the graduating class—earned merit diplomas, maintaining GPAs of at least 3.0.

The Peter B. Hobbs Memorial Award—a \$1,500 scholarship named for a greatly loved and respected former principal at MSSD—went to Joyce Hom. **G**



Kendall Demonstration Elementary School's Class of 2001 was honored June 15 at the school's annual Recognition Day ceremony. This year's graduates were (from left): Lauren Brown, Esther Drake, Regina Johnson, Arlene Ngalle, Meghan Venturini, and Sherrod Web. Delivering the Recognition Day address was Doris Schwarz, Grade 6,7,8 teacher/researcher, who is retiring after 31 years of teaching at KDES.



Noted actor, advocate Lou Fant dies

Louie Judson Fant, Jr., 69, a renowned actor and advocate for the deaf community, died June 11 at the University of Washington Medical Center in Seattle of complications from pulmonary fibrosis.

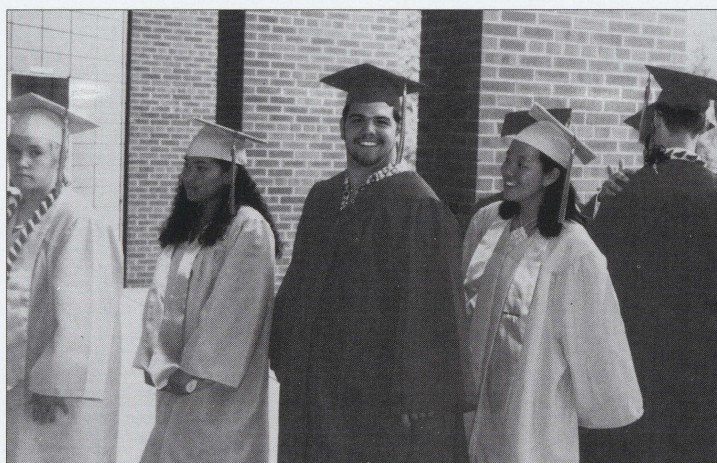
Fant was well known for his work as cofounder of the Registry of Interpreters of the Deaf and the National Theater of the Deaf, and for his acting roles in more than 30 movies and television programs, including "General Hospital" and "Little House on the Prairie." But he also gained acclaim for his work as an educator, a sign language interpreter trainer, and as an author on topics related to deafness.

Fant was born in 1931 in Greenville, S.C., to deaf parents. At age 16 he decided to become a minister for deaf people, and after graduating from high school he entered Baylor University in

Waco, Texas, to pursue this career. He soon realized, however, that his true calling was as an educator. After graduating from Baylor he worked at the New York School for the Deaf in White Plains for three years, then came to Washington, D.C., to work for the next nine years at Gallaudet, training teachers to work with deaf students.

A long and distinguished career in acting began for Fant when NTD was formed in 1967. After three years with the pioneering theater company, he went out on his own, acting for almost 20 years. In 1989, Fant gave up his acting career and moved to Seattle to train interpreter students at Seattle Central Community College.

Fant is survived by his wife, Barbara, and four children. **G**



Pictured outside Elstad Auditorium at MSSD's commencement exercises are class of 2001 members (from left) Mollie Herzog, Joyce Hom, Steve Janosi, Jr., and Megan Leschly.

Discount tickets

The Campus Activities Office is selling tickets to Six Flags Amusement Park in Largo, Md., for the bargain price of \$19 each, valid any day of the week, to faculty, staff, or students. For more information, call x5934 or stop by Campus Activities, Ely Center Room 100.



ASK AUNT SOPHIE

Dear Aunt Sophie,

Do you know what makes me madder than anything? Having to show my I.D. every time I drive onto campus. I accepted the system when it started months ago because I understood the reason for it, but not now. It's silly. It's not necessary. I've worked here for years and everyone knows me. My car has the Gallaudet parking tag hanging prominently. Does Security think the campus is going to be overrun by terrorists or something? This really makes me mad. Can you do anything about it?

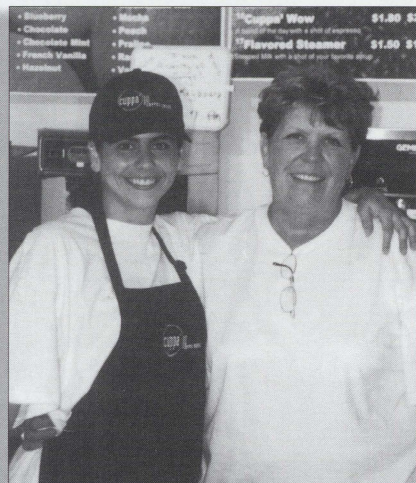
Madasheck

Dear Mad,

In addition to recommending that you immediately sign up for an anger management class, Auntie is happy to inform you that, starting with the fall semester, a more streamlined check-in system will be implemented. According to my sources, this new system will greatly facilitate our entrances to and exits from campus. I also happen to know that the University has once again beseeched the D.C. government for turn signals on the red lights at 8th and Florida. One must bear in mind, however, that certain security measures will remain—not because we fear being stormed by Goths or the like, but because common sense dictates that we take NORMAL precautions.

So, no more sniveling about this. Practice patience and be sure to smile when you show your I.D. to the person on duty at the front gate.

New coffee house opens near campus



Store owner Jo Printz (right) and employee Leslie Joseph, a Gallaudet graduate student, stand behind the counter ready to serve up frothy, hot coffee concoctions.

Opening the door of the refurbished row house at 1006A Florida Ave. NE, your brain immediately registers the delicious, unmistakable aroma of French Vanilla. Tomorrow, you may be greeted with the scent of amaretto, or Swiss chocolate, or Irish creme. Welcome to Cuppa Jo, a new coffee house and a welcome neighbor for Gallaudet and residents of the near Northeast community.

"I heard you were here, and I just had to come see for myself," a local resident said to owner Jo Printz after entering the shop on June 11, just five days after she opened her establishment. He took a sweeping look around at the gleaming coffee urns, the deli counter stocked with freshly made sandwiches and pastries, and the lounge area with its comfortable chairs and sofas, then pro-

claimed, "This is wonderful!"

It is also an unexpected dream come true for Printz. Fate put the plan in motion last summer when her husband, Marvin, paid a visit to Washington, D.C., from their home in Springfield, Mo., to assist their son with a building renovation project. Jeff Printz and his partner, Christopher Swanson, own Evolve, LLC, which buys and renovates old buildings, and they had enlisted Marvin Printz's help with converting the old Pierce School in Northeast D.C. into loft apartments. A few months later, Jo Printz came for a


visit, and she and her husband decided to make the city their home. Mulling over what to do with her new life in Washington, her son pitched an attractive idea: "Mom, you've always wanted a coffee house, why don't you do it?" So she bought the Florida Avenue row house owned by Evolve, renovated it, and created a relaxed atmosphere by filling it top to bottom with inviting, mismatched furniture. A patio, perfect for unwinding on warm summer nights, is now being built.

"I wanted a homey environment—a home away from home for everyone," said Printz. She chose the location because she liked the unique quality of the neighborhood—so much so that she and her husband have purchased a home around the corner from their coffee house. "My feeling is that the neighborhood is very diverse, and I wanted to

ROVING REPORTER

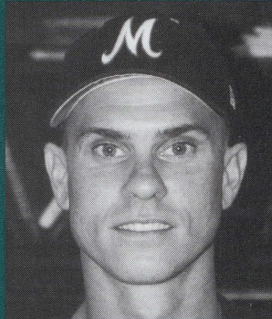
The United States Supreme Court recently issued a ruling that compels the Professional Golfers' Association, against its wishes, to allow Casey Martin, a golfer who cannot walk the 18 holes due to a circulation problem in his leg called Klippel-Trenaunay Weber Syndrome, to ride in a cart. What is your opinion of this ruling?

Slemo Warigon, director of Audit and Management Advisory Services:




The ruling was fair, proper, and realistic. It will allow Casey to play golf competitively, nary an undue advantage over professional golfers required to walk. I know traditionalists on the PGA tour would beg to differ, however.

Darrin Breechen, PE teacher, KDES:




I support the court's ruling that any disabled player should be allowed to ride in a golf cart. The golfers who qualify to earn a PGA card should not be prevented from playing on the PGA tour just because they need to use a cart. They should be encouraged to become successful professional golfers, not prevented from doing it.

Cliff Geffen, coordinator of residence education, Campus Life:



I'm disappointed with the ruling. Who says that becoming a professional golfer is for everyone? Walking is an integral part of the game.

Dorothy Alexis, student accounts supervisor, Accounting Office:




I enjoy playing golf myself and strongly favor this ruling. Casey Martin has been a great talent for golf and having a disease should not bar him from being a pro. He should be treated fairly.

open a business in which everyone is welcome," she said.

True to this philosophy, when it came to hiring staff, Printz looked no further than the neighborhood in choosing the coffee house's six employees—three of whom are Gallaudet students. She also plans to have regular entertainment showcasing talent from residents of Trinidad, Ivy City, Gallaudet, and other nearby neighborhoods.

Back to the coffee: Beans are ground daily and served by the cup or in a variety of cappuccinos and lattes, including a tribute to Gallaudet, the Bison latte (espresso, steamed milk, blueberry syrup, mocha, and whipped cream). There is also a selection of black teas, chai teas, and fresh fruit smoothies to choose from. The deli case is stocked with sandwiches, wraps, and salads prepared by Canals Deli of Eastern Market, and Danish, éclairs, breakfast croissants stuffed with combinations such as sausage, eggs, and cheese, and other treats prepared by Rolling Pin Bakery of Bladensburg, Md.

Cuppa Jo is open from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m., Monday through Thursday; 7 a.m. to midnight Friday; 11 a.m. to midnight Saturday; and is closed Sundays. 

AMONG OURSELVES

Norman Williams, computer scientist with the Technology Access Program, was interviewed about videophones for the June 2001 issue of *British Deaf News*. In the interview, Williams said, "I have always wanted to do real time conversation in sign language just like real time voice calls. Good video calls have proved to be the most effective communication that deaf people can have in terms of time and also being able to see the tone of the conversation by looking at facial expressions. The conversation is more natural; you can interrupt, for instance. The problem at the moment with videophones is price and availability."

Art Roehrig, human development counselor for the Office of Students with Disabilities, was the guest speaker June 25 at Arlington Central Library as part of its deaf history series program. Roehrig spoke about Helen Keller and Laura Bridgman, the first deaf and blind people to be educated. The program was part of Helen Keller Deaf-Blindness Awareness Week.

Dr. Margaret Mullens, assistant professor in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, successfully defended her dissertation, "Body and Soul: Deafness and Identity in Ruth Schumann's Autobiographical Novel *Das Arsenal*", on May 22 at the University of Maryland's graduate program in Germanic Language and Literature.

Dr. Ceil Lucas, professor in the Department of ASL, Linguistics, and Interpretation, was one of 31 distinguished exhibitors at the Coalition for National Science Funding's Seventh Annual Exhibition and Reception June 13. Lucas exhibited alongside professors and students from such distinguished universities such as MIT, Columbia, Stanford, Duke, and Princeton. The title of Lucas exhibit was *What's your sign for...? Sociolinguistic Variation in American Sign Language*. CNSF supports the goal of increasing the national investment in the National Science Foundation's research and education programs in response to the unprecedented scientific, technological,

